



UNITED STATES SENATE
**REPUBLICAN
POLICY COMMITTEE**

Larry E. Craig, Chairman
Jade West, Staff Director

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Republicans Are The Party of Compassion

How Welfare Reform Helped Nancy From Minnesota

In 1996, Republicans reformed welfare to encourage work and thereby lifted millions of Americans out of poverty. Even more compelling than the [statistics](#), however, are the stories of the individual Americans whose lives were turned around by Republican welfare reforms.

Nancy Trainer used the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program to help transform her life. When her relationship with her children's father ended, Nancy found herself unemployed with a young child and pregnant with another. Due to complications with her pregnancy, Nancy was temporarily unable to work, and she then turned to the TANF Program for assistance. With the advice of TANF staff, Nancy attended a local Workforce Center's computer class to help prepare her for future employment. She received coaching and guidance from a counselor, who provided moral support and encouragement to help Nancy make a better life for herself and her children. Nancy received funds for gasoline, automobile repair, and day care, which enabled her to vigorously pursue good employment opportunities.

Nancy obtained employment with the ITRON Corporation as a team leader in the retrofit area. Her fellow employees constantly look to Nancy for help with computer problems because of the computer training she received at the Workforce Center. With a full-time job, Nancy has purchased an automobile, is making arrangements to purchase her own home, and is accumulating savings in her bank account.

For 30 years, Democrats fought a losing War on Poverty. Thanks to a Republican Congress, America is finally winning that war.

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Adapted by RPC intern Jared Oren from information provided by the office of Representative Gutknecht (R-MN)

[The underlined text indicates hyperlinks in the electronic version of this RPC paper.]